

Lei Day Celebration 2006

THEME

Na Lei Malamalama o Na Kai 'Ewalu The Illuminating Lei of the Eight Seas

The traditional phrase “Na Kai ‘Ewalu,” is a Hawaiian reference describing how the same body of water that separates the islands of Hawai‘i also binds the islands together.

This year’s Lei Day Celebration theme, “Na Lei Malamalama o Na Kai ‘Ewalu” pays tribute to the lei material and colors that have become synonymous with each of the eight major islands of Hawai‘i as well as portray their relationship to each other.

The composer’s/lei makers’ artistry and skill with mea ulu (plants) will be challenged to showcase the uniqueness and beauty of each island.

**Mai ka hikina a ka la i Kumukahi
A ka welona o ka la i Lehua.**

*From the sunrise at Kumukahi to
The fading sunlight at Lehua*

From sunrise to sunset.
Kumukahi in Puna, Hawai‘i, was called the land of the sunrise
and Lehua, the land of the sunset.
This saying also refers to a life span – from birth to death.

‘Olelo No‘eau #2058
Mary Kawena Pukui
(Bishop Museum Press, 1983)

Our Na Lei Malamalama o Na Kai ‘Ewalu “voyage” will meander through the uniqueness and beauty of each island, from the dawn at Kumukahi to dusk at Lehua.